

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communication device connected with a wide area network (WAN) and a local area network (LAN), comprising:

a controller that:

determines whether a request to perform predetermined processing came in from the WAN or the LAN;

allows a user of the communication device to determine whether an operation according to the request is accepted or rejected when it is determined that the request came in from the WAN; and

allows the predetermined processing to be performed according to the request when a performance of the operation according to the request is accepted.

2. The communication device according to claim 1, wherein the controller includes an IP address table storage portion that stores IP addresses of terminals connected with the LAN, and the controller identifies a terminal which has issued the request with reference to the IP address indicating the terminal and the IP address table.

3. The communication device according to claim 1, further comprising:
a display unit that displays an inquiry about whether the performance of the operation according the request is accepted or rejected; and

an input unit through which the user can input an answer of whether the request is accepted or rejected in response to the inquiry.

4. The communication device according to claim 3, wherein the display unit and the input unit are provided at an operating portion.

5. The communication device according to claim 1, wherein the controller informs a terminal, which made the request, that the user of the communication device is absent near the communication device when the determination is not made by the user within a predetermined period of time.

6. The communication device according to claim 1, wherein the controller demands a user of a LAN terminal to determine whether the performance of the operation according to the request is accepted or rejected when it is determined that the request came in from the WAN.

7. The communication device according to claim 1, wherein the controller demands the user of the communication device to determine whether the performance of the operation according to the request is accepted or rejected only when the received request

involves predetermined online real-time processing, which is a specified request from the WAN.

8. The communication device according to claim 1, wherein the controller:
exclusively sets a first operation mode in which the determination of whether the performance of the operation is accepted or rejected is demanded; and
sets a second operation mode in which the controller allows the predetermined processing to be performed according to the request that comes in from the WAN when the performance of the operation is accepted aside from the first operation mode.

9. The communication device according to claim 1, wherein the controller informs a WAN terminal, that made the request, of a result of the determination by the user of the communication device as to the performance of the operation.

10. The communication device according to claim 1, wherein the request received from the LAN or the WAN is at least one that requests performance of a printing operation, transmission of facsimile data, reading of data from detachably attachable memory, setting change of device, and reading of received facsimile data, and the controller performs processing in accordance with the received request.

11. A method of communicating with a wide area network (WAN) and a local area network (LAN) connected to a communication device, comprising:

determining whether a request to perform predetermined processing came in from the WAN or the LAN;

allowing a user of the communication device to determine whether an operation according to the request is accepted or rejected when it is determined that the request came in from the WAN; and

allowing the predetermined processing to be performed according to the request when a performance of the operation according to the request is accepted.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising:
identifying a terminal which has issued the request with reference to an IP address indicating the terminal and an IP address table.

13. The method of claim 11, further comprising:
displaying an inquiry about whether the performance of the operation according the request is accepted or rejected; and
inputting a user answer of whether the request is accepted or rejected in response to the inquiry.

14. The method of claim 11, further comprising:

informing a terminal, which made the request, that the user of the communication device is absent near the communication device when the determination is not made by the user within a predetermined period of time.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein a user of a LAN terminal must determine whether the performance of the operation according to the request is accepted or rejected when it is determined that the request came in from the WAN.

16. The method of claim 11, wherein the user of the communication device must determine whether the performance of the operation according to the request is accepted or rejected only when the received request involves predetermined online real-time processing, which is a specified request from the WAN.

17. The method of claim 11, further comprising:
setting, exclusively, a first operation mode in which the determination of whether the performance of the operation is accepted or rejected is demanded; and
setting a second operation mode in which the controller allows the predetermined processing to be performed according to the request that comes in from the WAN when the performance of the operation is accepted aside from the first operation mode.

18. The method of claim 11, further comprising:
informing a WAN terminal, that made the request, of a result of the determination by the user of the communication device as to the performance of the operation.

19. The method of claim 11, wherein the request received from the LAN or the WAN is at least one that requests performance of a printing operation, transmission of facsimile data, reading of data from detachably attachable memory, setting change of device, and reading of received facsimile data, and processing is performed in accordance with the received request.

20. A communication device connected with a wide area network (WAN) and a local area network (LAN), comprising:

a controller that:

automatically performs predetermined processing according to a request when a performance of an operation is requested by a LAN;

allows a user of the communication device to determine whether an operation according to the request is accepted or rejected when it is determined that the request came in from the WAN; and

performs predetermined processing according to a request from the WAN when a performance of the operation according to the request is accepted.